

Fort Lauderdale

**Attend Public Hearings for
FY 03-04 Budget**

**Enroll Now for
Fall Canine Academy**



**August/
September
2003**

**A
community
newsletter
published
by the
City
of
Fort
Lauderdale**



**Become CERT-ified to
Assist with Disasters**



**Infrastructure Repair
Improves Quality of Life**



Also In This Issue...

**Stormwater Management Practices; Revised Hurricane Map Released;
Clean City Tips During Hurricane Season and more!**



Mayor's Message

Jim Naugle

City Commission

Vice Mayor
Carlton B. Moore, District III

Commissioner
Christine Teel, District I

Commissioner
Dean J. Trantalis, District II

Commissioner
Cindi Hutchinson, District IV

Public Hearings on Budget and Property Tax

Every year in July the City Commission receives a recommended budget from the City Manager for our fiscal year beginning October 1st. This year's budget is a challenging one for many reasons. About 70 percent of your tax dollars is allocated towards employee compensation. The City wants to attract the best workforce, and our employee compensation package is about \$71,000 per employee with fire-fighters getting \$81,000 and police officers making \$86,000 including City overtime. With more than 2,600 employees, you can see that this is an expensive task but one that is necessary to protect our life and property and to provide services that enhance our quality of life.

The City has revenue sources including fees for services, utility taxes and franchise fees, state and federal funds, license and permit fees, and fire assessments. But the largest source of revenue is property taxes. When you get your property tax bill, you should note that of the total amount you pay, about 20 percent goes to the City. The largest amount goes to the public schools, followed by the County, the City, and various other taxing districts.

Because of the relatively high property values in Fort Lauderdale, we are, on a per capita basis, the highest taxed city among the ten largest cities in Florida. In some households, property taxes are the biggest expense, exceeding

food, clothing, insurance, automobile, or any other single category. The property tax is a tax of great disparity because it is often levied with no regard to the ability to pay and sometimes with little relationship to the actual cost of providing services.

On September 3rd and 16th at 6 p.m. in the City Commission Chambers at City Hall, Fort Lauderdale will hold public hearings on the budget and property tax levy. In the past, the City has consistently raised property taxes to make up for budget shortfalls.

If you have any concerns about the budget, I welcome any suggestions you may have about our City operations and how we can do better.

BCIP/BCIGP Grant Cycle Runs Through September 30, 2003

The Business Capital Improvement Program (BCIP) and Business Capital Improvement Grant Program (BCIGP) are a part of an ongoing commitment to improve the City's business districts.

From now through September 30, 2003, incorporated business associations may apply for matching grants of up to \$25,000 to fund capital improvement projects which enhance the appearance of business areas. While complementing the City of Fort Lauderdale's residential

initiatives, the Business Capital Improvement Program seeks to stimulate business, commercial and industrial development by creating partnerships between the public and private sectors to encourage reinvestment in these areas. Through the BCIP/BCIGP, the aesthetic value and quality of business and commercial areas will be uniquely revitalized to preserve and maintain the positive image of Fort Lauderdale, while enhancing the City's development, growth and economic

vitality. Examples of capital improvement projects that business associations have completed with the assistance of BCIP/BCIGP funding include entrance-way signage, streetscapes, decorative lighting, sidewalks, curbing and brick paver crosswalks.

For complete program details or to obtain a grant application, contact **Marisol Lotito**, BCIP/BCIGP Program Manager, at (954) 828-8954 or visit the City's website at www.fortlauderdale.gov/bcip/bcip.htm.

The City of Fort Lauderdale supports the Americans With Disabilities Act.
If you would like this publication in an alternate format, please call Leslie Backus at (954) 828-4747 or email LeslieB@ci.fort-lauderdale.fl.us.

City Manager's Message



Floyd T. Johnson

Services Maintained Through Slow Economy

The proposed FY 2003/2004 budget provides the critical resources necessary to meet the needs of Fort Lauderdale's stakeholders - residents, business owners, tourists and employees.

The City has been greatly affected by the economy's three-year downslide from record growth and earnings to the lowest interest rate levels in 50 years. Our resources have been tapped significantly.

Despite a challenging economy, the proposed budget has been carefully prepared to address the fiscal pressures that were placed on the City. This budget assures the continuation of critical services, assists with remedies for areas of need such as the City's Insurance Fund and avoids employee layoffs.

There were several key facts to look at when preparing this budget. First, FY 2003 proved to be a tight budget year due to the economic slowdown, the demand for increased security and the

lack of salary savings. Second, there are major unprecedented increases in City expenditures beyond the City's control, including pension costs for all permanent employees. Third, the City's property tax continues to grow, however, due to adjustments by the Broward County Property Appraiser and the Value Adjustment Board the City lost \$1 million in revenue that was anticipated at last year's budget adoption. Lastly, expenditures for the coming year could not be accommodated without increasing the City's tax rate.

The proposed combined millage rate for both operations and debt service purposes is 5.1970. The all funds budget as proposed is \$374.2 million, 8 percent more than the current year's adopted budget. The General Fund proposed budget is \$214.3 million, a 4 percent increase over the current budget.

In previous years, the City has fol-

lowed a more conservative approach to property taxes. In order to maintain service levels, a few adjustments must be made including an increase in water and sewer rates, stormwater fees, fire special assessment fees, sanitation fees and property taxes. The total increase for the average homeowner is estimated to be \$100.93 per year.

I invite all citizens to review this budget and encourage you to provide feedback through attendance and comment at the public hearings, which will take place at the City Commission meetings on September 3 and 16 at 6 p.m.

The proposed budget can be viewed on the City's website (www.fortlauderdale.gov). Copies are also available for review at all Broward County Library branches. Specific questions regarding the budget may be directed to the City's Research and Budget Division at (954) 828-5425.

Fall Guide To Recreation Programming Available In September



Don't miss the fall line-up of holiday activities.

From arts to athletics, camps to concerts, and classes to after school offerings, the City of Fort Lauderdale Parks and Recreation Department has a wide range of fall offerings scheduled through December 31st.

Hundreds of activities, programs and classes are held throughout the City's parks and community centers and they are all listed in the *More Out Of Life* program guide. New copies will be available beginning in September. In order to receive one in the mail, you must be on the *More Out Of Life* mailing list.

Call (954) 828-6686 to have a free copy of the fall *More Out Of Life* mailed to the address of your choice.



The fall guide features hundreds of programs for all ages at more than 80 facilities.

Visit Fort Lauderdale Online at www.fortlauderdale.gov

Mark Your Calendar



Budget Hearing Dates

Two public hearings for the proposed FY 2003/2004 budget will be held at City Hall, 100 N. Andrews Ave., on the following dates:

- **First Budget Hearing - 6 p.m.**
Wednesday, September 3, 2003
- **Second Budget Hearing - 6 p.m.**
Tuesday, September 16, 2003

Both hearings will take place during the regularly scheduled 6 p.m. City Commission meetings.

Other Schedule Changes

The following City Commission schedule change was made to accommodate the Labor Day holiday. Commission meetings for September will take place as follows:

Wednesday, September 3, 2003

*1:30 p.m. Conference Meeting
(held in the 8th floor Conference Room)*
6 p.m. Regular Meeting (held in the 1st floor Commission Chambers)

Tuesday, September 16, 2003

1:30 p.m. Conference Meeting (held in the 8th floor Conference Room)
6 p.m. Regular Meeting (held in the 1st floor Commission Chambers)

Frequently Called Numbers

Public Information Office

(954) 828-4746

For City information, questions or publications.

24-hour Customer Service Line

(954) 828-8000

For inquiries regarding water, sewer, storm repairs, maintenance, and solid waste/trash. After hours for all calls.

Citizen Services - (954) 828-5944

For concerns and/or complaints.

Beach Conditions - (954) 828-4597

City Clerk's Office - (954) 828-5002

Code Violations/Neighborhood

Inspections - (954) 828-5207

Mayor/City Commission Office

(954) 828-5003/5004

Parks & Recreation Department

(954) 828-5346

Public Hearing on South Runway Extension at Fort Lauderdale-Hollywood International Airport Set for September 3, 2003

A public hearing to discuss the Fort Lauderdale-Hollywood International Airport expansion project will take place at the City Commission meeting on Wednesday, September 3, 2003 at 6 p.m. in the City Commission Chambers, located on the first floor of City Hall at 100 N. Andrews Ave. The item will be discussed under the Public Hearings portion of the City Commission regular meeting agenda.

The purpose of the public hearing is to provide Broward County with an opportunity to clearly demonstrate why the City should not revoke the Development Order that authorized the expansion of Fort Lauderdale-Hollywood International Airport Development of Regional Impact. At issue is a recent decision by the Broward County Commission to delay plans to extend the airport's south runway to 9,000 feet and whether this delay is a substantial deviation from the approved expansion plan.

The south runway extension was agreed to in 1997 by Broward County, Fort Lauderdale, Hollywood and Dania Beach as part of an airport expansion project that also included new concourses, gates, access ramps, air freight and maintenance facilities, additional parking, refurbished taxiways and other enhancements. Broward County has since completed many of the ancillary infrastructure improvements that were directly tied to the planned south runway extension. The County is now, however, reconsidering the south runway extension, which is arguably the most important and essential component of the plan.

"Broward County has moved forward with all of the projects leading up to the ultimate goal of expanding the airport's south runway. To now tell us that they want to explore other options is unacceptable," said **Commissioner Cindi Hutchinson**. "Eleven alternatives have already been studied, a clear choice has already been made, and an interlocal agreement between the County and the cities of Fort Lauderdale, Hollywood and Dania Beach has already been signed. It is now time to protect the residents of Fort Lauderdale by compelling the County to do what is right and finish the project."

Lengthening the south runway will allow the airport to use the north runway primarily for landings and the south runway primarily for takeoffs, a configuration that will more equitably distribute the impact of aircraft noise on surrounding neighborhoods. The extension will accommodate the projected increases in arrivals and departures at the nation's fastest-growing airport, which are expected to reach more than 410,000 by 2015, and avoid long and costly flight delays. Increasing runway capacity will also help strengthen the airport's position as a leading economic engine and enable it to continue to attract new investment, promote tourism, generate business development, foster international trade and create jobs.

Fort Lauderdale residents are welcome and encouraged to attend the public hearing on September 3 and provide input on the issue.

"It is our intention to put Broward County on notice that the City of Fort Lauderdale is prepared to revoke its development order if the south runway extension is not completed," said City Attorney Harry Stewart. "If the County does not intend to move forward with the runway extension, then they should stop all other construction related to the Airport expansion project."





Magazine/Catalogue Recycling Program Rewards Schools For Collection Efforts

The results of the 2003 Magazine/Catalogue Recycling Program are in, rewarding 18 schools with a total of \$1,590 to share for their collection efforts.

All Fort Lauderdale schools, pre-school, K-12, public and private were invited to participate. City recycling staff and schools, working with the Fort Lauderdale Recycle Corps and neighborhood civic associations, participated in the Magazine/Catalogue Recycling Program. The City supplied containers and collection services for the collected magazines and catalogues. The Recycle Corps and neighborhood association volunteers worked with the schools to help organize the projects and collect the magazines and catalogues. The schools promoted the project to their students and parents, and some organized competitions between classes within each school.

This year, 18 schools participated in the program (up from 11 last year), and collected a total of more than 38 tons of magazines and catalogues. This material, diverted from the waste stream, has realized avoided disposal savings plus modest revenue. The program passed the savings back to the participating schools. Schools were paid \$20 per ton for the magazines and catalogues collected. All schools received a minimum of \$20 for their effort, even if tonnages fell short of one ton. The City sponsored additional awards of \$200 to the 1st place winner, and \$100 each to the 2nd and 3rd place winners. The winning schools are listed below, followed by the rest of the participating schools listed in alphabetical order.

1st Place Winner - Pine Crest with 18,000 lbs. collected

2nd Place Winners - Bennett Elementary, Croissant Park Elementary, Sunrise Middle School and Trinity Lutheran Elementary each with 7,000 lbs. collected

3rd Place Winners - St. Anthony with 5,040 lbs. collected, Bayview Elementary with 5,000 lbs. collected and Harbordale Elementary with 5,000 lbs. collected

Other participating schools recognized were Fort Lauderdale Christian, Fort Lauderdale 7th Day Adventist, Lauderdale Manors Elementary, Northfork Elementary, Southwest Christian, St. Jerome, Stephen Foster Elementary, Stranahan High, Sunset School, Thurgood Marshall Elementary.

"The Recycle Corps and City staff believe this project is invaluable in reinforcing the concept of recycling among students," said **Casey Eckels**, Recycling Coordinator. "The students help spread recycling awareness to their parents and other adults."

Purify Your Water in Emergency Situations

During an emergency situation such as a hurricane or a water main break, it is possible that your drinking water could become contaminated or the water system could lose pressure. When this happens, public health officials will issue a Boil Water Order. This means that all water (excluding a pre-stored emergency supply of water or purchased bottle water) used for drinking, cooking or tooth brushing must be boiled, chlorinated or purified.

Boiling water is the safest purification method. To boil water follow these simple steps:

- Bring water to a rolling boil and allow it to boil for at least three minutes.
- After the water cools, pour it into a clean, sterilized, airtight container.
- Pour the water back and forth between two containers to put oxygen back into it. This will improve its taste.
- Boiling water does not remove chemical pollutants.

Note: Do not rely on home water treatment systems to purify your water. Emergency water sources may contain solid materials that can clog or overload the system's filter. Home water treatment systems are not designed to treat contaminated water and may not protect you against bacteria and viruses in the water.

For additional information, contact the City of Fort Lauderdale's Public Services Department **24-hour Customer Service Center** at **(954) 828-8000** to get a free copy of the Water Storage and Purification for Emergency Situations brochure. The brochure provides information on how to boil, chlorinate or purify water.

Be Water Wise During Current Rainy Season

Using water wisely makes sense. Now that the rainy season has returned, water conservation is the most important action we can take to sustain our water supplies, meet future needs, and reduce demands on Florida's fragile water-dependent ecosystems such as lakes, streams and the Everglades.

The City of Fort Lauderdale urges citizens to take a moment to do their part in conserving water by simply sprinkling their lawn sensibly.

Lawns only need watering every two to three days in the summer. A heavy rain eliminates the need for watering for up to a week, conserving a considerable

amount of water. If it rains one-half inch, residents can skip one day of lawn watering; if it rains one inch, skip a week; and if it rains more than one inch, skip more than week.

Water conservation and Xeriscaping tips can also be found on the web at www.fortlauderdale.gov/public_services.

Clean City Tips

Reminders In Preparation For Hurricane Season

Hurricane season commenced June 1st and it's important for each household to develop a plan of action for what may be a busy few months with severe weather.

By taking some preventive measures, you can ensure that you manage your solid waste effectively and safely during the 2003 hurricane season.

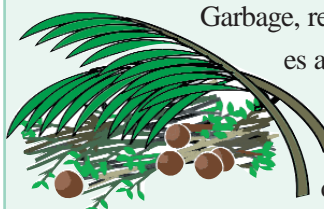
By now, major tree pruning, yard and household cleanup projects should have been completed. Remove coconuts and other yard debris regularly. By planning cleanup activities before and/or after hurricane season, you eliminate potentially dangerous piles on your right-of-way if a storm threatens. If you undertake cleanup projects during hurricane season, plan to use the Trash Transfer Station, located at 2101 NW 6th St., for disposal of your bulk and household items and yard waste. Household trash, such as food waste, is not accepted at the Trash Transfer Station.

For additional information on pick-up schedules, acceptable bulk trash items, recyclables, carts, Clean City Services and more, call Customer Service at **(954) 828-8000**. Follow the Clean City tips at the right to be prepared.

Please be aware of your regular trash, bulk and recycling pick-up schedules. If you are not sure of your regularly scheduled pick-up day, please contact the City of Fort Lauderdale Customer Service line at **(954) 828-8000** for information or helpful brochures. Only a state of emergency declared by the City Manager will adjust or interrupt a sanitation pick-up schedule. In this event, Sanitation will conduct two neighborhood pickups to collect all debris immediately following the storm. Otherwise all Clean City Services will remain the same. For more information, watch for Public Service Announcements or call the 24-hour Customer Service Line at **(954) 828-8000**.

TIP
#1

Garbage, recycling and bulk trash pick-up services are suspended during a storm. Do not place bulk trash on the curb during an approaching storm since service may be discontinued. Secure all carts and recycling bins in an enclosed area away from high winds or tie them down securely. The City of Fort Lauderdale asks residents to be prepared for an adjustment to their regular pick-up schedule after a hurricane that may result in a missed pick-up.



TIP
#2

Now is the time to take advantage of your bulk trash and tree-trimming property clean-up. If you cannot wait for your regularly scheduled pick-up, you may take bulk trash to the City's Trash Transfer Station located at 2101 N.W. 6th Street. The station is open Monday through Friday from 7 a.m. to 3 p.m. and Saturday and Sunday from 7:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. The station is closed on holidays and during a storm. The fee is \$10 per vehicle, car or pickup truck with a limit of one entry per day. The Trash Transfer Station is restricted for use only by Fort Lauderdale residents or property owners.



TIP
#3



For Contractors Only...

The City of Fort Lauderdale has retained the services of Crowder/Gulf Joint Venture for emergency debris management. Local contractors seeking post storm debris hauling and clean up work are encouraged to contact Crowder/Gulf Joint Venture at: Phone: 1-800-992-6207; Fax: (334) 654-0470 or E-mail: jramsay@crowdergulf.com.

Find The Right Tree For The Right Place

The City of Fort Lauderdale works with property owners to ensure that trees are properly and safely pruned around utility lines. Currently, a Citizen Advisory Panel meets once a month to discuss ways to avoid the unsightly pruning of trees to prevent power outages and hazardous conditions to neighborhoods and trees.

Tree planting is much more than going to a nursery, purchasing the tree and digging a hole to plant it in, said **Gene Dempsey**, City of Fort Lauderdale Urban

Forester. We are fortunate in Fort Lauderdale to have such a wide variety of trees from which to select that can meet every property owner's needs and tastes.

Here are a few questions Dempsey recommends to ask when determining which tree is right for you and your environment.

1. What is the purpose of the tree? Is it to beautify, shade, or screen the environment?

2. What is the planting site like? How

much space is available - both above and below ground? Trees need room to develop roots and develop a canopy. Are there overhead utility lines?

Dempsey recommends the following two websites for information: *680 Tree Fact Sheets* (<http://hort.ifas.ufl.edu/trees/>); *Atlas of Florida Vascular Plants* (<http://www.plantatlas.usf.edu>)

Contact Dempsey for more information at **(954) 828-5785**, or by email GeneD@ci.fort-lauderdale.fl.us.

WaterWorks 2011 Sewer Construction Process

The *WaterWorks* 2011 program is aimed at improving the City's utility infrastructure. The program includes installing sanitary sewer systems in the City's communities that are currently serviced by septic tanks. The project also includes upgrading large and small water mains and improvements to the City's water and wastewater treatment plants.

Most of the program is expected to be complete by the City's 100th anniversary in 2011. To accomplish this goal, the *WaterWorks* 2011 Program Management Team has developed an aggressive construction schedule.

"The contractors are on a tight schedule to complete construction and move on to the next project," said **Mike Furdock**, Senior Construction Manager of the *WaterWorks* 2011 program. "While in neighborhoods, we must be sensitive to the community's needs and educate residents about what to expect during construction."

Before a new project begins, residents will be informed of upcoming work via door-to-door notices delivered within the community prior to any construction. When the project begins, residents will see a pipe crew setting manholes and the sanitary sewer line in the center of the street. A second pipe crew will install the sanitary sewer laterals that run from the main line in the center of the street to the property lines.

Once all of the service laterals from the sanitary sewer main have been installed, another pipe crew will replace and upgrade the water main. When the water main is in place, another crew will install the new water services to properties.

After the water lines are properly constructed and tested for leaks, they must be flushed, sanitized and tested. Only after testing has confirmed that the water main and service lines have been thoroughly disinfected can the new service lines be connected to the existing meters. To complete the project, the contractor will rebuild the road and restore the swale areas and sidewalks that may have been damaged during construction.

Throughout the construction phase, posted detour signs will indicate which streets are open to local traffic. If driveway entries are blocked during construction, the contractor is required to open them by 5 p.m. that same day.

Contractors are scheduled to work Monday through Friday between 8 a.m. and 6 p.m. When possible, residents will be notified of extended work hours.

Residents may receive updates on the project through residential door hangers, local media traffic updates, scheduled presentations at homeowner association meetings or by visiting the website www.WaterWorks2011.com.

"Our goal is to work hand-in-hand with the community on these projects," said **Tom McCormick**, *WaterWorks* 2011 Program Director. "We will be responsive to the community's concerns and we will make every effort to minimize the impacts during construction."



Executive Airport Noise Study Update

The Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) continues to review Fort Lauderdale Executive Airport's FAR Part 150 Noise Study Update. The study, which was submitted in January 2003, outlines a number of noise reduction measures including routing all aircraft departures along I-95 to decrease noise over surrounding neighborhoods. City staff is working closely with the FAA to address questions and provide additional information to assist in the review process. In addition, hundreds of area residents have sent letters to the FAA expressing their support for the recommendations in the study.

If the FAA accepts the noise reduction recommendations, the City will move forward with implementing each measure, particularly the mandatory turn up I-95. If the FAA does not approve the recommendations or if the measures do not effectively reduce noise, the City will consider undertaking an FAA Part 161 Noise Study that would include a request to ban certain types of noisy airplanes and other potential restrictions.

Please continue to participate in the Noise Abatement Program calling the **24-hour Noise Hotline** at (954) 828-6666 to report any excessively loud or low-flying aircraft.

Airport Tenants Honored for Noise Compliance Efforts



Fort Lauderdale Executive Airport recently presented the 2003 Achievements in Community Excellence (ACE) Awards to the Aviation Unit of the Broward County Sheriff's Office (BSO) and Sheltair Aviation Facility Specialists. The recipients were honored for their outstanding compliance with Executive Airport's recommended noise abatement procedures and for educating other Airport users on noise issues and neighborhood concerns.

Acting Airport Manager Clara Bennett (center) with 2003 ACE Award recipients Joan Kuntz (left), General Manager of Sheltair Aviation Facility Specialists and Sgt. Carmine Berardino (right), Supervisor of the Broward County Sheriff's Office Aviation Unit.

Volunteer to Have Some Fun with City Festivals

Volunteering is always fulfilling and can be an extremely rewarding experience. It's sometimes a challenge, very exciting and provides a great opportunity to meet new friends.

Volunteers are an integral part of the success of all festivals and events in the City and the Festivals and Events Office is always looking for eager and energetic people to assist with these events.

Those interested in giving a few hours of their time to assist with the upcoming Sound Advice Blues Festival or any other City produced special event or festival are encouraged to attend the Semi-Annual Volunteer Recruitment Picnic on Sunday, September 14 at Snyder Park, located at 3299 S.W. 4th Avenue. The picnic will take place from noon to 5 p.m. Admission is free.

Picnic participants will enjoy an afternoon of food, fun and excitement while learning about the many volunteer opportunities the City has to offer. The fun will include an obstacle course, karaoke, scavenger hunt and much more.

Volunteers have many positions to choose from including gate admissions, survey takers, festival security, stage assistants, band hospitality, band transportation and much more.

All volunteers will receive a free T-shirt, volunteer hospitality with free food and drinks and admission to the Volunteer Appreciation Party after the event.

For more information about the Semi-annual Volunteer Recruitment Picnic or how to become a volunteer, please contact **Sarah Goodrum** in the Festivals and Events Office at **(954) 828-3256**.



17th Annual Fort Lauderdale Sound Advice Blues Festival

Date: Oct. 31, Nov. 1-2, 2003

Hours: Friday: 5:30 - 11:30 p.m.
Saturday: 11 a.m. - midnight
Sunday: 11:30 a.m. - 8:30 p.m.

Location: Fort Lauderdale Festival Site
1201 NW 55th Street

Admission Prices:

Tickets available Sept. 27th

Friday Night / HooDoo

VooDoo Halloween Ball: \$7

Daily: \$15

Two day pass: \$25

Call the **24-hour Cool Blues Hotline** for more information, **(954) 828-5934**.

CERT Class Enrollment Open To City Residents



Fort Lauderdale resident learns techniques to utilize in an emergency.

Be CERTain and know your role in an emergency. There are only two classes left on the 2003 Community Emergency Response Team (CERT) training schedule. The first class takes place Tuesdays and Thursdays beginning August 12th through September 4th, and the second class takes place on Wednesdays from September 3rd through October 22nd. Both classes will be held from 7 to 9:30 p.m. at the Fort Lauderdale Fire-Rescue Training and Special Operations Bureau, located at 2000 N.E. 16th Street. Due to space limitations, CERT classes are offered at no charge to City of Fort Lauderdale residents only. Reservations for CERT courses are being accepted on a first-come, first-served basis.

CERT training is invaluable following a disaster because often times emergency personnel cannot immediately access your area. By learning the necessary skills needed to survive the immediate aftermath of a hurricane, tornado, fire or other major disasters you can make a significant difference in your survival.

In 1996, the City implemented the CERT program to improve community self-reliance and survival ability through training in the event of a disaster. Basic training is provided in emergency preparedness, fire suppression, disaster survival, light search and rescue, terrorism and more.

Now is the time to form a neighborhood CERT team that will enable you to respond immediately to an emergency situation with confidence and skill.

To register for CERT training or to receive additional information, please contact Lieutenant **Patrick Scartozzi** at **(954) 828-3619** or e-mail PatrickS@ci.fort-lauderdale.fl.us. A downloadable brochure and additional information is also available on the City's web site at www.fortlauderdale.gov on the Fire-Rescue Department's web page.



CERT program improves community self-reliance and survival ability in the event of a disaster.

Competitions Highlight Firefighters Specialized Skills

The Fire-Rescue profession is a demanding career that requires long hours of training, working and being exposed to extreme situations to save lives and property. Although a lot of time is spent training while on duty, firefighters also spend many hours training off duty to prepare for multi-municipal competitions.

Recently, several Fort Lauderdale Firefighters competed in events that highlight their specialized lifesaving skills. Participation in the events enabled them to sharpen their skills, learn new rescue techniques and create public awareness for the challenging rescues they are capable of performing.

At the sixth annual "Beach Blowout" Scott Firefighter Combat Challenge Lt. Rod Peeler and Firefighter/Paramedics (FF/PM) Jose Fardales, Mike Hughes, James Carroll and Troy Cool were named Regional Champions with a first place finish out of 28 teams. Each firefighter competed in full bunker gear, including a breathing apparatus (SCBA), and performed one of five tasks that simulates the physical demands of real-life firefighting. This regional victory qualifies the team for the upcoming Firefighter Combat World Challenge XII to be held in Canada this November.

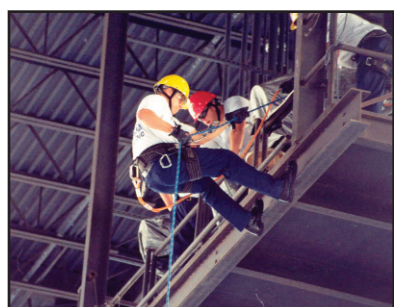


Top: FF/PM Cool uses sawzall to cut roof to free victim from car during Extrication Competition.



Left: FF/PM Carroll drags 175 pound mannequin 100 feet to finish line at annual Combat Challenge

Fort Lauderdale Firefighters Lt. Jeremy Riffard, Driver Engineer (D/E) Dale Zimmerman, D/E Kevin Mullen, FF/PM Jason Taddonio and Firefighter/EMTs Scott Bayne and Stan Buryn won the Southeast Regional International Rescue and Emergency Care Association Technical Rescue Competition in West Palm Beach. The team had to successfully complete two scenarios. The first scenario involved rescuing a weak worker who had to be lowered 100 feet from a roof through a tight ladder to a camera box area suspended 90 feet in the air. In the second scenario, the firefighters had to rescue a worker with a broken leg who was trapped on a ladder about 30 feet in the air. The victory gives the team the opportunity to compete in the technical rescue competition in Dallas this August.



Top Left: Fort Lauderdale Firefighters assess and treat victims of simulated plane crash during ALS Competition.

Bottom Left: Lt. Peeler drags 140 foot charged hose 75 feet.

Above: FF/PM Taddonio prepares to rappel to the victim.

Two teams of Fort Lauderdale Firefighters participated in the Sixth Annual First There-First Care Competition. FF/PM Jorge Aguiar, Greg May, Jason Morss and Mike Salzano competed in the Advanced Life Support (ALS) competition where they placed 5th out of 15 teams for successfully managing a mass casualty incident involving a simulated plane crash.

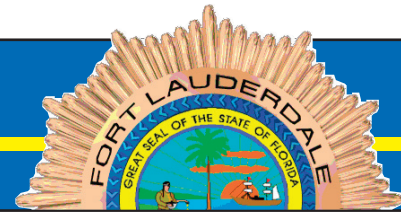
Another team of firefighters, led by Battalion Chief Dan Hanes, competed in the Extrication Competition during the First There-First Care Competition. Lt. Joseph Fox, Lt. Rod Peeler, Lt. Phil Pennington and FF/PM Troy Cool, Kenneth Gurdak and Mike Salzano (alternate) placed an impressive third out of 13 teams. The team successfully managed a simulated two-car accident where a victim was trapped inside a car blocked on one side by an overturned car and blocked on the other side by a concrete barrier. The victim's car also had a concrete beam crushing the roof. The rescue required the use of extrication tools including Hydraulic cutters, sawzall and a hydraulic ram.

Firefighter Honored During National Emergency Medical Services Week

Hollywood Medical Center recently presented Fort Lauderdale FF/PM James Carroll an EMS Hero of the Year award during National Emergency Medical Services Week. Fire Chief Otis J. Latin, Sr., nominated Carroll in recognition for his dedication and resourcefulness in an incident that resulted in the healthy delivery of a baby. A pregnant woman had arrived by private vehicle at Broward General Medical Center. A nurse went to the vehicle, and saw that she needed immediate assistance, as it appeared delivery was imminent. Unaware of FF/PM Carroll's presence behind her and unsolicited, he volunteered to assist and helped in the baby's delivery. FF/PM Carroll was commended for his initiative in offering this assistance, and for representing the Department in a professional manner. His actions were a visible demonstration of the Department's mission to provide "Excellence Through Service."



Fire-Rescue Honors



K-9 Unit Offers Dog Owners Free Training

Buttercup needed a little help in the obedience department. The loving 130 lb. Great Dane found it challenging to pay attention and follow basic commands like sit and heel. That is, until owner Pat Meyers took Buttercup to a four-week Civilian Canine Academy hosted by the City of Fort Lauderdale Police Department K-9 Unit.

I can't say enough good things about the wonderful experience that Buttercup and I had, said Meyers. These officers were numero uno. They cared, they helped and they taught all of us what to do. It was like having private lessons. This is one experience no caring dog owner should miss.

The intent of the class is to show owners how to train their dogs, said K-9 Sergeant **John Eaves**.

We show, train and hope that they go home and practice, he said. We use a variety of training techniques such as food incentives, properly fitted training collars and handler praise. This works because it's done in a positive atmosphere with people who have a mutual interest in obedience training."

Classes are scheduled to begin in early fall and are limited to 12 participants. Dogs must be at least six months old to attend.

The class, offered free of charge to City residents, consists of four two-hour sessions where dogs learn the basic commands: sit, heel, down, stay and come. In addition to training resident pooches to be well-behaved, the program increases interaction between K-9 officers and residents. The K-9 unit is the only police unit that works primari-

ly with criminal suspects and has little to no interaction with residents, said Fort Lauderdale Captain **Scott Israel**.

"This is a great way for the citizens to see the humanistic side of our K-9 officers," said Israel. "The job of a K-9 officer never really ends and participants will have the opportunity to talk to the officers and find out how they take care of their police dogs at home and what they can do to provide a more comfortable environment for their pets."

The inaugural Civilian Canine Academy was held in April 2003 with eight participants and their dogs. Participating dogs receive the highest level of training. The Fort Lauderdale Police K-9 officers are all trained to handle a wide variety of dogs. Two members of the seven-member K-9 unit are Florida Department of Law Enforcement (FDLE) certified canine trainers, said K-9 Sergeant John Eaves.

As an added bonus, participants enjoyed a presentation by Canine Companions, a non-profit organization that trains assistance dogs and ongoing support to ensure quality partnerships.

For dates of the next Civilian Canine Academy, contact Rosa Vazquez in the Community Support Division at (954) 828-6428. For additional information about the Fort Lauderdale Police Department's Civilian Canine Academy, please call K-9 Sgt. Eaves at (954) 972-1455.

"This is a great way for the citizens to see the humanistic side of our K-9 officers. The job of a K-9 officer never really ends and participants will have the opportunity to talk to the officers and find out how they take care of their police dogs at home and what they can do to provide a more comfortable environment for their pets. - Scott Israel.



CSI Fort Lauderdale: Forensic Technology Convicts Criminals

Forensic technology dates back to 1877 when Professor Edmond Locard, Founder and Director of the Institute of Criminalistics at the University of Lyons in France, stated that "every contact leaves its trace." Fort Lauderdale Police Detective Sgt. Karl Hirsch agrees with the statement, but believes that it is even more accurate today than ever before.

"Today it is practically impossible for an individual to commit a criminal act without leaving some trace or evidence of the act. What has changed in the last 125 years and continues to evolve on a constant basis, is forensic technology," Hirsch said. "New techniques are being developed, existing techniques are being modified and the limits of detection are being expanded. Oftentimes evidence is invisible and forensic technology is improving our ability to detect and collect such evidence."



Det. Hill uses Amino Black, a protein dye, to lift an invisible shoe print.

Hirsch is the supervisor of Fort Lauderdale Police Department's (FLPD) Crime Scene Investigation (CSI) Unit, which is known for its accuracy, efficiency and use of state-of-the-art technology.

Det. Tom Hill, a 30-year FLPD veteran, has seen firsthand the changes in investigative techniques.

"We have always conducted crime scene investigations, but today we do it 100 times better," said Hill. "The difference between then and now is that we have more chemicals and technology that allows investigators to locate and enhance physical evidence that would not have been possible in the past."

Armed with an airbrush and a chemical called Leucocrystal Violet (LCV), investigators are able to develop invisible prints. The chemical reacts instantly to the presence of blood, causing faint or invisible blood prints to turn a violet color. Further color enhancement is done through the application of a second chemical called Amino Black, which is a protein dye stain that causes the violet ridges to turn a dark indigo blue. Any additional enhancements can then be accomplished through the use of tools in digital applications.

Investigators will also use a chemical known as Luminol in total darkness to illuminate a "cleaned up" crime scene area. Hill and fellow CSI investigators have successfully used Luminol to detect blood at a 25-year-old crime scene.

Another tool used extensively is an alternate light source, or ALS. This tool is designed to emit light at specific wave lengths creating a greater contrast between body fluids, trace evidence and fingerprints with the background they are on, allowing greater visibility to see the evidence.

"We take people off the streets in a round about way," said Hill. "You just can't argue with physical evidence - you can't."

The Fort Lauderdale Police Department has utilized technology such as DNA to not only convict guilty suspects, but also to vindicate and release wrongly convicted individuals. In addition to Hirsch and Hill, FLPD's Crime Scene Investigation Unit includes Det. Juan Cabrera, Det. Wally Mountz, Det. Sal Vasi and Crime Scene Investigators Carol Coval and Kim Pavlik.

Survival Techniques Every Child Should Know

The safety of our children is a priority for the City of Fort Lauderdale Police Department, and with the recent widely publicized abductions, the Community Support Division is taking preventive action.

Escape School is a free safety education program developed by a former police officer who teaches children how to recognize and avoid a potential abduction while building self-confidence.

The next Escape School session will take place on Thursday, September 25th from 6:30 to 8 p.m. in the City Commission Chambers on the first floor of City Hall, located at 100 N. Andrews Avenue.

In this course, children will learn survival techniques such as how to escape from the grip of an abductor, how to attract attention to the location where they are being held against their will, and how to get people involved in their rescue. By the end of this free course, children will learn to trust their instincts and differentiate between "good" and "bad" strangers.

The program is geared toward children between the ages of 5 to 13. Currently, the Fort Lauderdale Police Department is the only law enforcement

agency offering Escape School.

Parents are asked to register by calling the Community Support Division at (954) 828-6429.

After School Safety Tips for Kids

The City of Fort Lauderdale Police Department urges parents and children to take safety into their own hands. Now that the fall school term is quick approaching, Detective **Nate Jackson** provides these helpful suggestions to keep your children safe.



1. Act out the afternoon before the first day of being home alone. Role-play with your children for emergency situations. Practice calling 9-1-1.

2. First aid. Parents should have a first-aid kit and children should know how to use the items in kit.

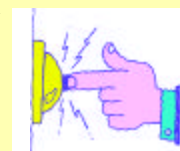
3. Post important phone numbers by the phone. Parents should write down their work and cell phone numbers.

3. Have your child check in with you when they arrive home and have securely locked all doors.

4. Don't go swimming. Even if it's hot outside, children should not swim without an adult present.

5. Teach your child to exercise caution if the doorbell or phone rings. Sometimes it's best not to answer at all. (Parents should instruct child what to do.)

6. Grab some goodies. Parents should leave an after school snack out or in the refrigerator for children. The snack should require no cooking.



CAP Update

The Community Area Planning (CAP) initiative, a program that offers citizens an opportunity to work with City staff to proactively plan the future of their community, recently kicked-off in the City's East Area with two public workshops.



The East Area, which includes 19 neighborhood associations, is generally bounded by Commercial Blvd. (north), State Rd. 84 (south), the Intracoastal Waterway (east), and Federal Highway (west).

More than 160 citizens attended the CAP Workshops to identify and discuss challenges and opportunities facing their community. Numerous strengths were identified including: Fort Lauderdale's climate; waterways; beach; accessibility to shopping facilities and cultural amenities; and variety of recreational and economic opportunities. Concerns were raised about traffic; diminishing marine related uses along the waterways; lack of vegetation and tree canopies; inadequate public transportation; and parking. Specific comments were received about the presence of vendors at several of the area's major intersections, and limited access for boats at the Middle River Bridge on Sunrise Boulevard.

The information obtained at the workshops will now be developed into a list of targeted planning themes. This process will be completed by City staff together with the Community Leadership Committee (CLC), a group of 25 citizens appointed by the Fort Lauderdale City Commission to assist in the implementation of the CAP process.

In the coming months, the public will be invited to reconvene to review the information and ensure that it represents the community's vision and interests. The end result of the CAP process will be a list of goals and objectives along with cost estimates and implementation strategies for the East Area that will be presented to the City Commission for approval in 2004.

For more information about the CAP initiative, visit the City's website at www.fortlauderdale.gov/CAP or call (954) 828-8980.



Infrastructure Recapitalization Program Launches Bridge Repairs Throughout City

The City of Fort Lauderdale Engineering Department has launched a project that is designed to repair the City's bridges under the infrastructure capitalization program. Of the 68 bridges in the city, 48 are currently under the City's jurisdiction and several of these bridges have been scheduled for repair.

Repairs on these bridges have been divided into two phases. Phase I of the project began on April 1, 2003, with the S.E. 13th Street/Cordova Road Bridge, and will be completed in June 2004 with the Isle Bahia Drive bridge. (Please see schedule below.)

There are 14 bridges included in Phase I of the project and those in need of the most work have been repaired first. Most of the bridge repairs, other than painting, will not be visible and consist of filling cracks, fixing joints and repairing beams under the bridges.

"These repairs will prevent further deterioration of the bridge structure, and will extend the useful life of these bridges by at least 10-15 years," said **Mike Fayyaz**, City of Fort Lauderdale Assistant City Engineer.

All bridges will be fully operational during the repairs, although traffic may be reduced to one lane. Residents should have complete access to their streets at all times, however, they may experience slight delays. All work areas will be clearly marked with signage, cones, barricades and/or flashers.

Many of the City's bridges have sewer and water lines that cross below them. If it is discovered that a utility line is in need of repair or replacement, work will take place during the repair stages. If this situation does arise, residents may experience a minor interruption in service resulting from the installation of a temporary utility line. For more information about this project, please call **954-828-5772**.



Bridge Location

Castle Harbor Isle Drive/N.E. 30th Avenue
E. Las Olas Boulevard/S.E. 12 Avenue
Bayview Drive/N.E. 51st Street
Laguna Terrace/Lucille Drive/S.E. 14th Street
West Lake Drive over Estelle River
West Lake Drive over Cordelia River
West Lake Drive over Lucille River
West Lake Drive over Mercedes River
South Ocean Drive over Marion River
N.E. 18th Avenue over Canal C-14
Isle Bahia Drive

Repair Start Date

June 6, 2003
August 7, 2003
August 21, 2003
September 30, 2003
November 5, 2003
December 15, 2003
January 26, 2004
March 4, 2004
April 9, 2004
May 12, 2004
June 10, 2004



Dive into Stormwater Pollution Prevention

Where Does Stormwater Go?



Stormwater is carried over the surface and drains into catch basins located throughout the City.



From the catch basins, water travels through pipes to the pump station. Before the water is discharged, it passes through the bar screen to filter out large floatables and debris.



The water remains in a holding tank until it reaches a certain level. Then it is automatically discharged into the waterways through gate valves.

The City of Fort Lauderdale is known for its beautiful beaches and marine-related activities. The miles of waterways in the City are a major artery for its survival. Without them, tourism would drop and the City's economic health could suffer. However, every day these waterways are threatened by the possibility of stormwater pollution and runoff, the major contributors to the pollution of surface waters.

In 1972, Congress enacted the Federal Water Pollution Control Act, known as the Clean Water Act, to prevent pollutants from reaching our nation's waterways. An amendment to this Act in 1977 makes it unlawful to discharge any pollutant into navigable bodies of water without a permit. The City of Fort Lauderdale, like other cities, obtained a National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) permit to properly manage our waterways and is currently in its second five-year permit cycle. The permit requires the City to develop and implement various stormwater management programs, monitor the pollution of our City's waterways and increase public awareness to generate proactive behaviors that prevent stormwater pollution.











What is stormwater pollution and what are the effects? Stormwater pollution is untreated water that drains from the surface of streets and yards through 7,845 miles of the City's storm drain system. Water from rain, hoses and sprinklers picks up pollutants and floatables along the way and carries them to their final resting place--the City's waterways. Pollutants and floatables include debris, cigarette butts, styrofoam cups, fast-food wrappers, water mixed with chemicals, motor oil and car fluids, debris, yard and pet waste, leaking and improperly maintained septic systems, and pesticides.

The effects of stormwater pollution are detrimental. Stormwater pollution poses a health risk, harms marine life, closes beaches, contaminates the ocean, impacts the economy, harms the environment, affects neighborhoods and property values, clogs gutters and catch basins, which increases the risk of flooding, attracts rodents and creates unpleasant odors.

What are the benefits of preventing stormwater pollution? The benefits of preventing waterway pollution are endless. The City's waterways will be cleaner, healthier and safer for swimming, fishing or enjoying other water-related activities. The City will also be cleaner and more aesthetically pleasing and the need for costly stormwater treatment in the future can be prevented.

How can you help save our waterways? Pollution of the City's waterways typically results from unintentional human behaviors. Simple modification of these behaviors will contribute to keeping the waterways pollution free. No matter how young or how old, everyone can play a key role in preventing stormwater pollution. By simply adopting the habits below you can make a difference now--for yourself, for your children, for the environment and for the future.

Stormy's Top 10 Stormwater Pollution Prevention Habits

- | | |
|--|---|
|  Never dump or pour anything down storm drains or catch basins. |  S.O.S. - Save Our Swales. Do not fill them. |
|  Check cars for leaks. |  Xeriscape - select native plants that are drought and pest resistant. |
|  Handle and dispose of household hazardous waste properly. |  Sweep driveways and walkways instead of hosing them down. |
|  Use fertilizers sparingly. Avoid pesticides and herbicides. |  Purchase biodegradable, nontoxic, recycled and recyclable products when possible. |
|  Dispose of yard waste and clippings properly. |  Pick up pet waste. |

For more information on the City of Fort Lauderdale's Stormwater Management Program call the 24-hour Customer Service Center at (954) 828-8000.



Storm Station 1, located at Riverfront in downtown Fort Lauderdale, collects and processes stormwater.

Around Town

Summer Sports Camp

Don't miss the final two sessions of the **2003 O'Brien Summer Sports Camp** on August 11-15 and August 18-22. Under the direction of 2000 U.S. Olympic Coach Tim O'Brien and staff, this recreational camp features a variety of water and beach activities for youth ranging 5 to 12 years of age. Participants take part in springboard and platform jumping and diving, snorkeling, volleyball, soccer, flag football, kickball, arts and crafts in groups of their own age. All staff on site are safety certified. The sessions take place Monday through Friday from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. Arrangements for early drop-off and late pick-up schedules can be made. Camp fee is \$160 for the week, in addition to a \$50 registration fee. Discounts are available for those who register more than one child in a session. To register, please contact Tim O'Brien at **(954) 768-0093**. Campers must be comfortable in water depths that exceed their height. If your child is not comfortable, call the Fort Lauderdale Swim Team offices at **(954) 764-4822** to sign up for swim lessons.



Stay Fit & Cool With An Aquatic Workout

Swimmercize is designed to improve muscle tone, heart and lung capacity, and flexibility through a series of water exercises. The Fort Lauderdale Aquatic Complex, Fort Lauderdale High School Pool and Sunrise Middle School Pool are the ideal sites to get you started, even if you are a non-swimmer. Fees are \$3 per class or \$25 for a 10 class pass. Classes at the Fort Lauderdale Aquatic Complex, 501 Seabreeze Blvd., are held Sunday through Friday, 9 a.m. to 10 a.m., and 6 p.m. to 7 p.m. on Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays. Classes at Fort Lauderdale High School, 1600 N.E. 4th Ave., are held on Saturdays from 11 a.m. to noon. Classes at Sunrise Middle School Pool, 1750 NE 14th St, are held on Saturdays, 1 p.m. to 2 p.m. For more information, contact the Fort Lauderdale Aquatic Complex at **(954) 828-4580**; Fort Lauderdale High School Pool at **(954) 828-5401**; and Sunrise Middle School Pool at **(954) 712-2018**.

The 2003 Bank of America Starlight Musicals culminates its eight week concert series this month while bringing to life the summer tradition of dancing beneath the stars to the tunes of South Florida's hottest bands.



Weekly concerts begin at 7 p.m. at Holiday Park, located at U.S. 1 and Sunrise Boulevard.

Bring your friends, family and neighbors in addition to your favorite picnic foods, baskets, beverages, blankets and chairs. No dogs allowed. Ample free parking is available.

For more information, please call **(954) 828-5363**.

Schedule of Performers

August 8 - Enjoy Top 40 music of the Bulldogs. Wine, Roses & Candlelight. Contests: Decorate and set your most elaborate picnic with tables, candelabra, tablecloths, flowers, wine and four course meals.

August 15 - Treat yourself to the Blues & Pop style of Funkabilly Playboys. Last splash before Back to School! Fashion Show/Teddy Bear Picnic/Water Games and more in store for you.

Free Movies Under the Moonlight

Bring your lawn chairs, picnic baskets and blankets to Huizenga Plaza for the Maroone Moonlight Movie. This monthly movie event, set beneath the stars, is perfect for the entire family.

The Maroone Moonlight Movie takes place the first Saturday of the month from 8 to 10 p.m. Huizenga Plaza is located on the southeast corner of Andrews Avenue and Las Olas Boulevard. Admission is free!



The upcoming movie schedule is as follows:

September 6, 8 p.m.

October 4, 8 p.m.

Young Frankenstein

Singing In The Rain

The Maroone Moonlight Movie is presented by the Fort Lauderdale International Film Festival. For more information, please call **(954) 760-9898**.

Back To School Bonanza

The Beach Community Center, located at 3351 NE 33rd Ave., will host a "Back to School Bonanza" on August 16th from 11 a.m. - 4 p.m. in a collaborative effort with City of Fort Lauderdale Police Department.

Police personnel will provide fingerprinting and teach children how to avoid being seized. A variety of fun activities are also scheduled such as a bounce house, face painting, kids art stations, Escape School promoting child safety and floral arranging demonstrations for the adults and more special surprises. A \$3 admission fee is required. For more information, call the Beach Community Center at **(954) 828-4610**.

SunTrust Sunday Jazz Brunch

Downtown, the Riverwalk and New River come alive the first Sunday of every month as the SunTrust Sunday Jazz Brunch fills the air with all types of Jazz music performed on six stages along the New River from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. Jazz Brunch completes its 13th year as one of the most popular monthly events in Broward County. Picnic baskets, blankets, chairs and dogs are welcome to the monthly fest. For more information please call the SunTrust Sunday Jazz Brunch hotline at **(954) 828-5363** or visit the City's web site (www.fortlauderdale.gov). Don't miss these performances:



September 7

Miquel Cruz at Esplanade

Carlos Averoff at BCPA

Rose Max Trio at Connie Hoffman stage

Nicholas Marks at Rotary Gazebo

Fullpower Trio at the Las Olas Riverfront

October 5

Ruffhouse at Esplanade

Island Heat at

Irie Irie at Connie Hoffman Stage

Randy Singer at Rotary Gazebo

Marcello Coehlo at Las Olas Riverfront

Las Olas Art Fair Weekend

Don't miss the 16th Annual Las Olas Art Fair on Saturday and Sunday, August 30th & 31st, 2003. Artists will showcase a variety of pieces including life-size sculptures, landscape photography, striking oil paintings, uniquely crafted jewelry, pottery and so much more. For more information, call **(954) 472-3755**.

Recycle Corps to Meet In September

The next City of Fort Lauderdale Recycle Corps meeting is scheduled for Monday, September 29 at 7 p.m. in the City Commission Chambers on the 8th floor of City Hall, 100 N. Andrews Ave. Topics to be discussed neighborhood applications for the Recycling Incentive Program and Blues Festival America Recycles Day plans/volunteers. Parking is available in the City Hall parking garage on the east side of the building. For more information, contact Casey Eckels, City of Fort Lauderdale Recycling Coordinator at **(954) 828-5577**.



Neighborhood Getaway

The 7th Annual Florida Neighborhoods Conference 2003, hosted by the City of Sarasota in collaboration with Manatee and Sarasota counties and the City of North Port, is scheduled for September 11-13, 2003. Fort Lauderdale residents interested in attending are asked to work with City staff in coordinating group transportation as part of the community experience in attending the annual weekend event. The conference is a networking opportunity for citizens with two days of workshops and events to promote information exchange. An annual gathering of neighborhoods and civic/neighborhood leaders from throughout the state, this year's event will provide participants with an opportunity to experience over 40 training workshops, 28 community tours and two keynote speakers.



Plans are currently underway for charter buses to transport conference attendees from our area (Fort Lauderdale/Broward County) to the conference. A specific schedule for the departure and return will be available as conference dates approach. The cost for bus transportation will be a nominal amount if reserved in advance. For a copy of the conference schedule, a registration form, or to reserve your space on a charter bus, please contact Leslie Carhart at the City of Fort Lauderdale by phone **(954) 828-8962**; Fax: **(954) 762-8974**, or email LeslieC@ci.fortlauderdale.fl.us or logon to www.fnc.sarasotagov.com and review all the details.

Museum of Art to Host Vatican Exhibit

The largest collection of Vatican art and historically significant objects to ever tour North America will arrive in Fort Lauderdale when the Museum of Art hosts *Saint Peter and the Vatican: The Legacy of the Popes* from August 23 - November 23, 2003. The exhibit, which features more than 300 pieces tracing 2000 years of church leadership from Saint Peter through Pope John Paul II, will include masterworks of gold and silver, marble sculptures, intricately embroidered silk vestments, papal rings and jewels, important paintings and a host of other fine art. The Museum of Art is one of only four U.S. Museums that will host this world-class exhibition.

Tickets are \$19 for adults, \$16 for seniors (62+), \$10 for children over three and students with ID, and \$11 for members. Adult and school groups of 15 or more are \$15 and \$6, respectively. General admission tickets go on sale August 10 but groups of 15 or more can purchase tickets now by calling 1-877-4VATICAN. For more information, visit www.MuseumofArt.org.



Papal Tiara of Pope Pius VII

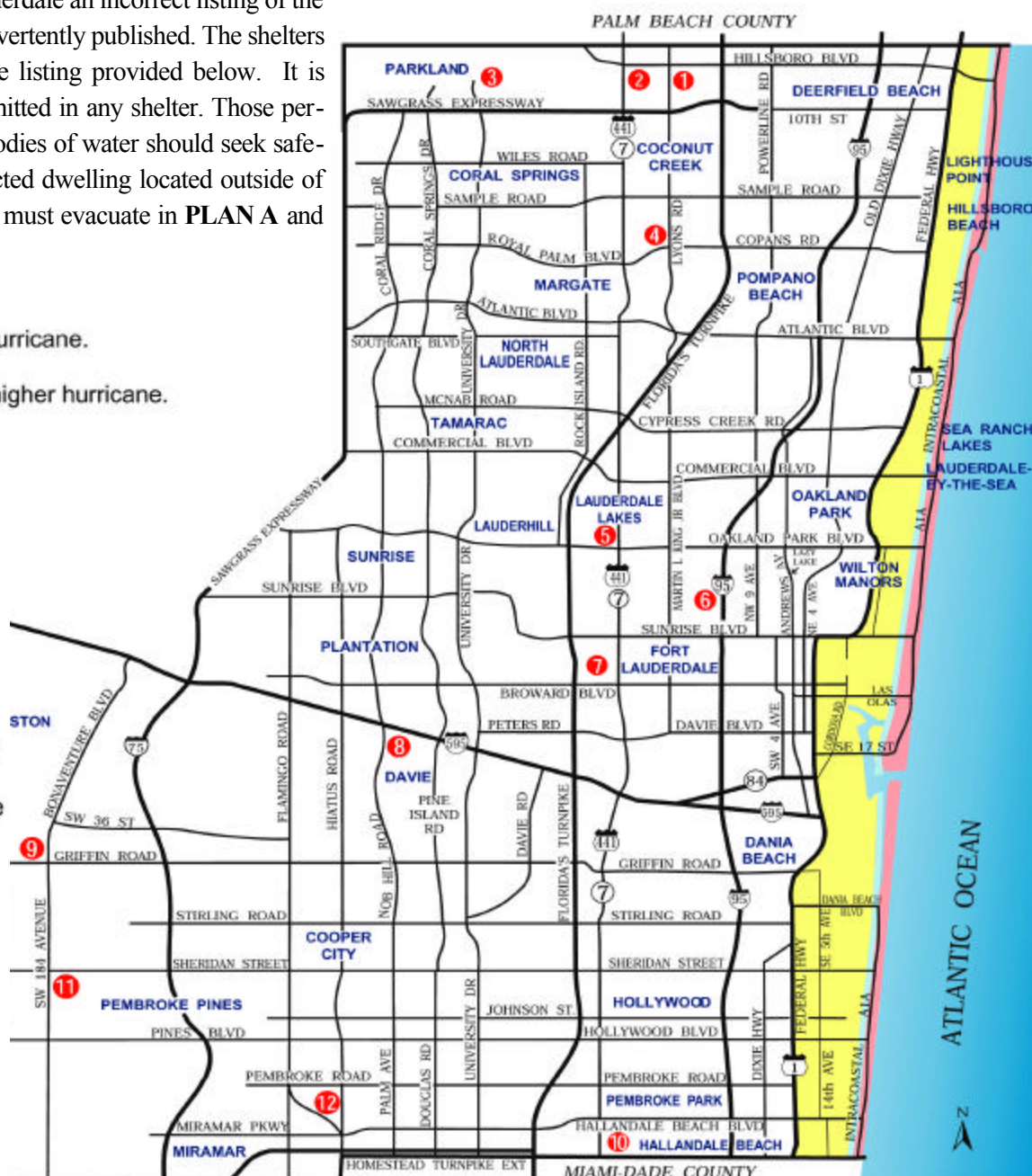
Visit Fort Lauderdale Online at www.fortlauderdale.gov

Hurricane Shelters Revised

In the June/July issue of Focus On Fort Lauderdale an incorrect listing of the approved American Red Cross shelters was inadvertently published. The shelters available in Broward County are located in the listing provided below. It is important to keep in mind that pets are not permitted in any shelter. Those persons located in low lying areas or beside tidal bodies of water should seek safety at one of the public shelters listed or a protected dwelling located outside of the evacuation zone. All mobile home residents must evacuate in **PLAN A** and **PLAN B** as designated below and in the map.

- PLAN A** Typically a Category 1-2 hurricane.
- PLAN B** Typically a Category 3 or higher hurricane.

- 1) Lyons Creek Middle School**
4333 Sol Press Blvd., Coconut Creek
- 2) Tradewinds Elementary School**
5400 Johnson Road, Coconut Creek
- 3) Park Trails Elementary School**
10700 Trails End, Parkland
- 4) Liberty Elementary School**
2450 Banks Road, Margate
- 5) Park Lakes Elementary School**
3925 N. State Rd. 7, Lauderdale Lakes
- 6) Rock Island Elementary School**
2350 N. W. 19th Street, Fort Lauderdale
- 7) Plantation Elementary School**
651 N. W. 42nd Ave., Plantation
- 8) Fox Trail Elementary School**
1250 Nob Hill Road, Davie
- 9) Falcon Cove Middle School**
4251 Bonaventure Blvd., Weston
- 10) Watkins Elementary School**
3520 S. W. 52nd Ave., Pembroke Park
- 11) Silver Trail Middle School**
18300 Sheridan St., Pembroke Pines
- 12) New Renaissance Middle School**
10701 Miramar Blvd., Miramar



Visit Fort Lauderdale Online at www.fortlauderdale.gov

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